

SEVENTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

American Colonization Society,

WITH THE

MINUTES

OF THE

ANNUAL MEETING AND OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JANUARY 21, 1896.

WASHINGTON CITY :

COLONIZATION BUILDING, 450 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE.

1896.

JUDD & DETWEILER, PRINTERS.

THE SEVENTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT.

EMIGRATION.

During the past year the American Colonization Society has assisted four emigrants to Liberia: Mr. Sidney H. Arnett, aged 32 years, waiter in a hotel, from Rock Ledge, Florida, March 30, 1895; Miss Hattie Gibson, aged 30 years, school teacher, from Martinsburg, West Virginia, October 26, 1895; Mr. Charles B. Dunbar, aged 20 years, school teacher, from Wilmington, Delaware, October 26, 1895; and Mr. A. J. Cross, aged 22 years, farmer, from Wadley, Georgia, December 21, 1895. In each of these cases the Society furnished only a passage by steamer from New York by way of Liverpool, the emigrants paying their own expenses to New York and providing for themselves after their arrival in Liberia.

The Society has definite information of 217 emigrants who have gone from this country to Liberia during the past year and wholly paid their own way. Others have probably gone who have not been noticed, and a large number have corresponded with the Society who are now making arrangements to emigrate during the coming year, paying the whole or the greater part of their expenses.

Seventy-four years ago this Society sent out its first party of colonists; each year since it has sent out emigrants to Liberia. Those reported for the past year make a total of 16,428, exclusive of 5,722 recaptured Africans which it enabled the Government of the United States to settle in Liberia, or a total of 22,150 persons whom the Society has assisted in finding homes in Liberia.

BUREAU OF INFORMATION.

During the year the Society has edited and published two Bulletins, Nos. 6 and 7, containing the latest news obtain-

able from Liberia, important information about Africa, and valuable articles relating to the Negro problem in the United States and elsewhere. Three thousand copies of these Bulletins have been distributed, many of them in response to special calls at home and abroad. The exchange list now includes the very best African publications in Europe and the principal newspapers published on the west coast of Africa. In reply to the letters received daily at this office from Negroes in the United States desiring to emigrate to Liberia and seeking information on the subject these Bulletins are most useful, and they are supplemented by letters giving the more specific information called for in each case.

EDUCATION.

That the intelligence and virtue of a people are the only foundations on which a republican form of government can rest securely and without which no people under any form of government can be prosperous and progressive goes without saying. The future of Liberia depends, first, upon the education which she gives to her youth and, second, upon the character of the immigrants which she receives, largely from the United States. This Society is profoundly interested in both and is endeavoring to aid along both lines.

Mr. Julius C. Stevens, our agent in Liberia, has devoted most of his time during the past year to educational work, for which he has many excellent qualifications.

He has continued his visitations to the schools, both public and private; consulted with teachers, made suggestions for improvements in accommodations, furnishing of school-rooms, appliances, text-books, and methods of teaching; has given instructive and stimulating talks to schools and gatherings of parents and others whom he has interested in the importance of education.

The plan of furnishing a better class of school text-books, purchased by the Society in the United States at the lowest wholesale prices and sold through its Liberian agent at actual cost, has already been successful and promises the most gratifying results in the future. The people of Liberia appreciate the favor, and are fast purchasing at a low price a better class and better supply of school text-books for the use of their children.

In a recent report to this Society Mr. Stevens says:

"The free public schools of Liberia are supported by part of the general revenue arising from customs dues, licenses, and other taxes. Within the last few years the government has had great additional expenses in carrying on the Cape Palmas war, purchasing two new gunboats, &c., and it has been impossible to afford the same school facilities as existed before the war. Now that all is quiet, attention is again returning to educational interests, and the people are discussing the best means of putting the common schools on a firmer basis. An internal land and poll tax especially for schools is suggested and better supervision and local subcontrol. The legislature will be asked to revise and amend the school law, so that the maintenance of the schools and the duties of officers will be better understood and more efficacious."

The Hall School at Cape Palmas, maintained by the income of a fund in the custody of this Society, has been satisfactorily conducted during the past year, as shown by the detailed reports of the principal, received through the secretary and treasurer of the local board of trustees at the close of each half-yearly term. The whole number of pupils enrolled in this school during the last year reported was 71. The average number on the roll was 65, of which 11 were children of native African parents. Some new and modern text-books have been introduced into the school, and the course of study has been improved.

Mr. Stevens has visited All Saints' Hall at Beulah, thoroughly investigated affairs there, and made a full and satisfactory report to this Society. He found that the school had been broken up when Miss Scott abandoned her enterprise four or five years ago, most of the material for the main building sent out from this country had been sold or become useless for want of proper protection, and the cleared fields on which cultivation had been commenced were fast being covered with bush. The proceeds of the sales were in the hands of or had been loaned to different individuals, and, in accordance with his instructions, he took steps to collect the same for transmittal to this Society. The sum total found by him was \$1,025.50, of which he has collected and forwarded to this Society up to date \$685.48. He reports that the 200 acres of land at Beulah, now belonging to this Society as the Trustees of All Saints' Hall, are easily accessible,

elevated, well watered, very fertile, and in all respects a most desirable site for an industrial school and model Liberian farm.

The Executive Committee has asked the Liberian government to make an additional grant of 1,000 acres of land contiguous to the 200 acres at Beulah, so that the entire All Saints' Hall tract shall be 1,200 acres, and is also making diligent inquiry for a suitable man to place in charge of the All Saints' Hall industrial project.

For improving the common schools of Liberia the committee is also diligently maturing other plans, all of which look to helping her to help herself, the only kind of assistance that can bring satisfactory and lasting results.

In 1888 this Society received \$1,000, a legacy of the late Mr. John West Mason, of Newark, Illinois, as a trust fund "to be invested, with or without additions, until the income thence arising shall be sufficient to meet the expenses of a pious young man of color while being educated to preach the Gospel among the heathen of Africa, * * * said income to bear the name of Theodore Lewis Mason, M. D., late of Brooklyn, N. Y., and brother of said testator." Since that date the fund has been invested and the income received from it now amounts to \$335.

Gammon Theological Seminary, at Atlanta, Georgia, is an institution founded for the education of "pious young men of color," has able officers and teachers, is well equipped for its work, and is the only institution in this country that in its course of study makes a specialty of the study of Africa—its geography, history, opportunities, needs, and the Negro race. It holds in trust a large fund, named "The Stewart Missionary Foundation for Africa," which was given for this specific purpose, and is doing most efficient work. It is a leading purpose of this institution to prepare colored youth for intelligent and effective missionary work in Africa.

This Society has entered into an agreement with Gammon Theological Seminary to provide a scholarship, to be named "The Theodore Lewis Mason, M. D., Scholarship," in that institution, in consideration of the receipt of the annual income of "The Theodore Lewis Mason, M. D., Fund." A worthy student is now receiving the benefit of this legacy, and it is expected that this arrangement for realizing the noble purpose of the donor of the fund will be permanent.

NEW PROJECT.

The colonization of Liberia hitherto has followed the usual course of early settlements in all new countries, and immigrants have taken up the lands near the seashore and the tidewater creeks and rivers. The first settlers of a country find the water their ready-made highway for travel and transportation. The civilized portion of Liberia's population today is limited to a narrow strip of country along the Atlantic coast, extending back not farther than from five to fifteen miles, with the exception of the settlements on both sides of the St. Paul river, which reach up to the first rapids, some twenty or twenty-five miles from its mouth. Here at the head of navigation, on its left bank, is a small settlement called White Plains, which marks the boundary of the farthest advance of civilization toward the interior.

Prof. O. F. Cook, an enterprising young American scientist, under the auspices of the New York State Colonization Society, landed in Liberia in December, 1891, and has devoted his time since that date to exploring the country and investigating the social, industrial, and economic conditions of the people. He has recently made a report to the New York Society, in which he attributes the failure on the part of the Liberians to make the progress expected from them in part to the fact that most of the colonists were wholly illiterate and emigrated from the slave States of America, carrying with them only the civilization which they had attained to as slaves in the section of country from which they came. With the dominant class in their old homes the *laissez faire* principle largely prevailed and labor was to be performed by somebody else; hence in their new freedom and independence they thought the proper thing to do was to assume the rôle of their old masters in the Southern States and have the natives do the work. In their changed situation labor was looked upon as a necessary evil, to be avoided as much as possible.

There is without doubt much truth in Professor Cook's statement, and when we add to that the fact that the Liberians have been separated from the rest of the civilized world by several thousand miles of ocean, with little of even commercial communication, we should not be greatly surprised that the little

Republic has not kept step with the progress of the last half of the nineteenth century in more highly favored lands.

Professor Cook is of the opinion that the people and the country need only a more intelligent and energetic development in order to realize the brightest hopes and expectations of the founders of Liberia. He has obtained from the Liberian government a grant to the New York Society of 1,000 acres of land in the immediate vicinity of Mount Coffee, some eight or ten miles above White Plains, at the head of navigation on the St. Paul river, and proposes to make of this land a model farm, more especially for the cultivation of coffee. Here also he will introduce horses, oxen, and other domestic animals, hitherto found seldom if at all in Liberia. He has already cleared about 100 acres of this land, built a small house, planted several thousand scions for a coffee grove, and furnished some animals. He intends also to make this farm to some extent a large industrial school for the benefit of the surrounding country.

It is now proposed to construct a good wagon road from White Plains to Mount Coffee and begin enterprising settlements, with coffee as the leading industry, all along the road, in this higher and more healthful region of country.

The New York Colonization Society and this Society have agreed to undertake this work jointly, under the superintendence of Professor Cook, at an estimated cost of about \$5,000. This Society has asked the Liberian government for a grant of the land on each side of the proposed road to the depth of half a mile, and on this land it is its intention to make new settlements, improve the present methods of raising coffee and other products adapted to the climate, introduce beasts of burden and other domestic animals, better methods of cultivating the land, and better facilities for travel and transportation.

The more intelligent class of Negroes now emigrating from this country to Liberia and largely paying their own way have had thirty years of freedom, with all the beneficent training and experience in self-reliance and necessitated industry which these years have brought to them. They are better qualified for the settlement of a new country than were a large majority of those who at an earlier day went out direct from an environment of slavery, and we may reasonably expect this improvement in the character of immigrants to be continued in the future.

THE UNDEVELOPED WEALTH OF AFRICA.

England, France, Germany, Portugal, Italy, and Spain are engaged in a fierce scramble for the last square foot of Africa, not so much for the sake of enlarged domain and increased political power as for the unmeasured wealth which all parts of that great continent holds out to them. While in the not distant future this will consist largely in its immense forests of the most useful and valuable woods and, owing to its extent in latitude and peculiar physical features, the great variety of the products of its generous soil, including the chief staples of commerce—wheat in its northern and southern extremities, coffee, cotton, sugar, rice, India rubber in its more tropical regions—just now the rapid increase in the output of gold is especially attracting the attention of the world.

For centuries it had been believed that Africa was the favorite depository of this most precious metal, and her "golden sands" have figured in song and story. The natives by the crude methods known to them have found it in greater or less quantities, worked it into personal ornaments or bartered it to Europeans for glass beads, brass wire, and rum. So large a traffic in gold was carried on along an extensive seaboard on the Gulf of Guinea, now owned by England, that it was named the "Gold Coast." The latest edition of Stanford's "Compendium of Geography," a high authority, says: "The total yield of the 'Gold Coast' since the arrival of the Europeans, 1471, has been estimated at from £600,000,000 to £700,000,000."

A scientific investigation of African gold mines has up to this time been made only in a small portion of the southern part of the continent, and the working of these mines with modern methods and appliances was commenced within the last ten years.

The official reports of the director of the United States Mint give the output of gold in Africa for five years as follows:

1890.....	\$9,887,000
1891.....	15,742,400 (increase 59.2 + per cent.)
1892.....	24,232,000 (increase 53.9 + per cent.)
1893.....	28,943,500 (increase 19.4 + per cent.)
1894.....	40,271,000 (increase 28.1 + per cent.)

Increase, 1890 to 1894 307.3 + per cent.

The well-known American mining engineer, Mr. John Hays Hammond, now employed in the Transvaal, says: "It is obviously impossible to make an approximate estimate, but I would regard as well within the bounds of conservatism the prediction that the annual output of the Witwatersrand district before the end of the present century will exceed £20,000,000 sterling (\$100,000,000) worth of gold."

MODERN METHODS OF TRAVEL AND TRANSPORTATION IN AFRICA.

The steamboats now plying on the great lakes and all the navigable rivers of Africa are numbered by hundreds, and the railroads already in operation, under construction, and projected indicate unmistakably how rapidly the rich resources of that continent are to be developed and appropriated by intelligent and progressive enterprise.

There are now more than 2,000 miles of railroad in the French possessions on the Mediterranean. The principal trunk line extends from Oran to Tunis, with branches, either completed or in progress, to all the large seaports on the north, and three lateral lines advancing across the plateau to the southern oases, one of which will not be completed until it has been carried over a route already surveyed across the Sahara to Timbuctoo, the basin of the Niger, the fertile region of the Sudan, the valley of the Senegal, and an Atlantic port near its mouth.

Egypt has a system of railroads ramifying the delta and extending up the Nile to the Nubian frontier, aggregating a total of more than 1,200 miles.

There are three great systems of railroads starting from seaports of Cape Colony, in South Africa, the trunk lines of which, with their interlacing branches, are known as the "Western," "Midland," and "Eastern." At the end of 1893 they had a total of 2,253 miles open and in regular operation, and great progress has been made since that date.

The Western, commencing at Cape Town, runs through Kimberly, celebrated for its diamond fields, and Vryburg to Mafeking and beyond, on its way to Bulawayo, recently the capital of the famous African king, Lobengula, but already become, as if by the touch of a magician's wand, a flourishing settlement of Great Britain. The Midland has its southern terminus at Port Eliza-

beth, and runs through Bloemfontein, the capital of the Orange Free State, Johannesburg, the site of the great Witwatersrand and other gold mines in the South African Republic, to Pretoria, its capital. The Eastern has its southern terminus at East London.

On the east coast farther north Natal already has more than 400 miles of railway open, and still farther north a line, starting from Delagoa bay, in Portuguese territory, is well on its way to Pretoria, the capital of the South African Republic.

On the Congo river, of the railway now being constructed from Matadi, the farthest inland port accessible to ocean steamers, to Leopoldville, on Stanley Pool above the falls, a distance of about 250 miles, some 90 miles of road over the most difficult part of the route have been constructed, and the work on the rest of the line is being pushed forward for an early completion, probably within three years.

Great Britain has also commenced an important railway from Mombassa, on the east coast, to Lake Victoria and Uganda; and on the west coast a corps of engineers are now surveying a route from Free Town, Sierra Leone to the hinterlands of that colony, and the building of the road at an early day is assured. Steps are also being taken for the construction of a road from Lagos, on the Gulf of Guinea, to the interior.

It will thus be seen that provisions for modern means of travel and transportation over all parts of the great continent have been well commenced and are rapidly progressing. Already more than 6,000 miles of railway are open. The Egyptian line, running up the Nile toward the south as far as Nubia, and the South African lines, running toward the north beyond Pretoria, are destined to meet and be united; and it may safely be predicted that within the next generation the American tourist will be able to take his palatial car at Alexandria, in Egypt, in the north temperate zone, be carried up the Nile to its source among the great lakes of the central plateau, by the grand Victoria Falls of the Zambesi, Johannesburg, having the largest and richest gold mines of the world, Kimberly, with its matchless diamond fields, and after a delightful ten days' journey of more than 5,000 miles, through the entire length and very heart of the old continent of Africa, be landed at Cape Town, in the south temperate zone.

CONCLUSION.

Seventy-nine years have come and gone since a little company of fifty patriots and philanthropists met in this capital city and organized the American Colonization Society. On that original roll, preserved in the archives of the Society, are the signatures of statesmen, divines, and philanthropists holding the highest places in American history. They long since passed away, leaving ample and unmistakable record of what they said and did.

The simple clause of their charter, "the colonization, with their own consent, in Africa of the free people of color residing in the United States," included a fourfold purpose: first, to do away with slavery in the United States; second, to aid in putting an end to the foreign slave trade; third, to establish a place of refuge for slaves recaptured on the high seas or elsewhere after the foreign slave trade had been declared piracy; and, fourth, to establish an independent Negro nationality in Africa which, in the language of the constitution of Liberia, should "provide a home for the dispersed and oppressed children of Africa and regenerate and enlighten that benighted continent."

The first three of these grand purposes were already realized when slavery in the United States was abolished, and it were an easy task to show the important part which the Society had in the accomplishment of each.

The execution of the fourth purpose was well commenced in the establishment of the independent Republic of Liberia, which still holds out a promise of the ultimate achievement of the beneficent purpose of its founders and calls for the services of this Society in its behalf.

In response to this call the Society continues its labors. It endeavors to strengthen Liberia, especially by aiding its educational work and by officiating as a bureau of information for the benefit of Liberia and the thousands of Negroes in the United States who, not contented with their present condition and future prospects, desire to emigrate to that country.

The Society recognizes the facts of race and the great part, in the order of Providence, which they have played in the evolution of nations and the progress of civilization, and it believes that it can do good service to the Negro race in both this country and Africa by continuing to encourage and assist the efforts to

maintain and build up an independent, enlightened, and Christian Negro nationality in Africa.

Civilization has its units of value of different orders, of which race is one that demands recognition in all successful efforts to improve the condition of our fellow-men. This principle does not conflict with the broader principle of the "common brotherhood of man," but is subordinate to it, and its recognition only takes note of the actual racial differences existing in the brotherhood of man and wisely regulates action accordingly.

The student of the past knows how largely racial characteristics have entered into the history of every nation that has ever existed. The Negro is bound to his race by a law of Providence, and all efforts to ignore that bond spring from selfish, isolated individualism or ignorance and must end in disappointment.

That philosophical and sagacious statesman, Lord Beaconsfield, made Baron Sergius say to Endymion, the hero of his story :

"No man will treat with indifference the principle of race. It is the key of history ; and why history is often so confused is that it has been written by men who were ignorant of this principle and all the knowledge it involves. As one who may become a statesman and assist in governing mankind, it is necessary that you should not be insensible to it ; whether you encounter its influence in communities or in individuals, its qualities must ever be taken into account. * * * Language and religion do not make a race ; there is only one thing which makes a race and that is blood."

Of late we have heard much about civil equality without social equality ; but the civil equality of two distinct races, counted by millions, in the same country, without actual or possible social equality, if it ever come, will be an anomaly, having no precedent in all history ; and there is abundant evidence on every hand that one generation of experiment in this country has produced results far from being satisfactory to either race. Civil equality in its full reality must have its foundations far deeper than legal phrases in constitutions and statutes ; it rests securely only in the hearts and public sentiment of a homogeneous people.

The Hon. J. L. M. Curry, widely known as scholar, statesman, educator,* and the general agent for the distribution of those

magnificent bequests to education in the South, "The Peabody Fund" and "The Slater Fund," than whom no man in this country has a more thorough knowledge of the so-called "Negro problem," knowledge derived largely from widely extended personal contact and observation, in a paper recently published, says:

"Much has been written of the evolution of man, of human society, and history shows marvelous progress in some races, in some countries, in the bettering of habits and institutions, but this progress is not found in any equal degree in the Negro race in his native land. What has occurred in the United States has been from external causes. Usually human development has come from voluntary energy, from self-evolved organizations of higher and higher efficiency, from conditions which are principally the handiwork of man himself. With the Negro, whatever progress has marked his life as a race in this country has come from without. The great ethical and political revolutions of enlightened nations, through the efforts of successive generations, have not been seen in his history."

In Liberia, with all its favorable opportunities and great possibilities, handicapped by no other dominant race, the Negro has a possibility to demonstrate to the world that he has the capacity for that "human development which has usually come from voluntary energy, from self-evolved organizations of higher and higher efficiency, from conditions which are principally the handiwork of man himself," and which has made the peoples and governments of the world what they are today. Can a wiser thing be done by the foremost of the race than to make the most of this possibility?

The Japanese, now the marvel and admiration of the world, a generation ago were considered little better than barbarians. They have developed as a race and a nationality, and, while freely availing themselves of the advantages offered to them by the highest civilization of other races and nations, their evolution has been distinctively along their own racial lines, and their nationality has been guarded and strengthened with the most jealous care. It has been as a race and nation, not as separate individuals, that they have won the high respect and position now so happily accorded to them.

The Republic of Liberia is about the only portion of Africa which the Negro can call his own, where he stands erect and bows to no other race as master. It is true that it is still little and weak, but in its location, climate, soil, and natural productions it is conceded by all intelligent observers and writers to be the most eligible part of the whole West Coast of Africa, and there is unlimited room for enlarging its borders as fast as its people and government prove themselves worthy to occupy, develop, and rule over more territory. Without any foreign governmental protection or assistance it has for a period of forty-nine years maintained an independent government, which on terms of equality has been fully recognized and dealt with by the other members of the family of nations, and in all future wisely directed efforts which the Negro may make to build up a great, enlightened, progressive, Christian nationality there in Africa he will have the hearty sympathy and support of other races and nations.

The report of the Treasurer is herewith submitted.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

DR.	<i>Receipts and Disbursements of the American Colonization Society, January 1 to December 31, 1895.</i>		CR.
Received	Donations..... \$1,626 00 Annuities..... 3,762 02 Legacies..... 3,630 93 Interest on loans..... 1,857 50 Rents of Colonization building..... 1,554 62 Loans paid..... 512 83 All Saints Hall fund..... 685 48 Sale of text-books in Liberia..... 18 72	Paid passage and settlement of immigrants..... \$291 00 Education in Liberia..... 1,077 52 Water rent, insurance, repairs, etc., Coloniza- tion building..... 250 61 Printing Annual Report and Bulletins..... 444 78 Salaries: Secretary (12 mos.), \$1,800; Gen- eral Agent (12 mos.), \$1,208.32; Clerk (12 mos.), \$600; Janitor, (12 mos.), \$180..... 3,788 32 Office expenses: Books, stationery, postage, fuel, gas, furniture, etc..... 344 01 Investments..... 6,516 66 Traveling expenses of committees to New York city, Greenwich, Connecticut, and Atlanta, Georgia..... 192 30 George K. French, on account of trip to Li- beria in the service of the Society..... 500 00 Miscellaneous..... 63 82	
	Receipts..... \$13,648 10 Balance January 1, 1895..... 827 95	Disbursements..... \$13,469 02 Balance January 1, 1896..... 1,007 03	
	Total..... 14,476 05	Total..... \$14,476 05	

REGINALD FENDALL, *Treasurer.*

The Committee on Accounts have examined the Treasurer's account from January 1 to December 31, 1895, and the vouchers for the disbursements, and find the same correct.

G. W. S. HALL.
 THOS. G. ADDISON.
 J. ORMOND WILSON.

MINUTES OF THE AMERICAN COLONIZATION SOCIETY.

COLONIZATION ROOMS, *January 21, 1896.*

The Annual Meeting of the American Colonization Society was held today at 1 o'clock p. m., in the rooms of the Society, 450 Pennsylvania avenue N. W.

President Potter presided.

Mr. J. Ormond Wilson was appointed Secretary.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held January 15, 1895, were presented and approved.

On motion of Mr. Arthur M. Burton, the Secretary was instructed to cast the ballot of the Society for the following officers to serve for the ensuing year, and the Secretary accordingly cast the ballot:

President:

1892 RIGHT REV. HENRY C. POTTER, D. D., NEW YORK.

Vice-Presidents:

1851 Rev. Robert Ryland, D. D., Ky.	1892 Hon. John Scott, Pa.
1866 Hon. James R. Doolittle, Wis.	1892 Rev. Edward W. Appleton, D. D., Pa.
1867 Mr. Samuel A. Crozer, Pa.	1892 Rev. William A. Bartlett, D. D., D. C.
1870 Mr. Robert Arthington, England.	1892 Mr. Osmun Latrobe, Md.
1874 Rev. Bishop R. S. Foster, D. D., Mass.	1893 Rt. Rev. Thos. U. Dudley, D. D., Ky.
1875 Mr. Samuel K. Wilson, N. J.	1893 Hon. J. C. Bancroft Davis, D. C.
1876 Rev. Samuel E. Appleton, D. D., Pa.	1895 Hon. John T. Morgan, Ala.
1876 Rev. Bishop H. M. Turner, D. D., Ga.	1895 Mr. Robert B. Davidson, Pa.
1877 Rev. William E. Schenck, D. D., Pa.	1895 Mr. Isaac T. Smith, N. Y.
1878 Hon. Richard W. Thompson, Ind.	1896 Judge William H. Arnoux, N. Y.
1881 Rev. Bishop H. W. Warren, D. D., Col.	1896 Mr. Jay Cooke, Pa.
1882 Mr. Henry G. Marquand, N. Y.	1896 Rev. Julius C. Grammer, D. D., Md.
1884 Rev. George D. Boardman, D. D., Pa.	1896 Rev. Bishop James A. Handy, Kan.
1884 Rev. Bishop E. G. Andrews, D. D., N. Y.	1896 Rev. Wilbur F. Paddock, D. D., Pa.
1884 Prof. Edw. W. Blyden, LL. D., Liberia.	1896 Mr. George A. Pope, Md.
1886 Hon. Alexander B. Hagner, D. C.	1896 Rev. Wallace Radcliffe, D. D., D. C.
1888 Rev. J. Aspinwall Hodge, D. D., Ct.	• 1896 Hon. Henry M. Stanley, England.
1888 Mr. Arthur M. Burton, Pa.	1896 Rev. Henry Y. Satterlee, D. D., N. Y.
1891 Rev. Leighton Parks, Mass.	

The Rev. Dr. Sunderland, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors, reported that no action had yet been taken under the resolution adopted at the last Annual Meeting of the Society authorizing said committee "to incorporate the American Colonization Society under the general incorporation laws of the District of Columbia," etc.

Adjourned.

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

WASHINGTON, D. C., *January 21, 1896.*

The Board of Directors of the American Colonization Society met today at 12 o'clock m., in the rooms of the Society, No. 450 Pennsylvania avenue northwest, Washington, D. C.

President Potter presided.

Prayer was offered by the Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D.

The minutes of the Annual Meeting held January 15, 1895, were presented and approved.

Mr. Reginald Fendall, Rev. George W. Samson, D. D., and Mr. G. W. S. Hall were appointed a Committee on Credentials, and the committee reported the following-named Delegates appointed for the year 1896:

Maryland Colonization Society.—Mr. G. W. S. Hall, Rev. Julius C. Grammer, D. D., Mr. Edward T. Jones, and Mr. George Forbes.

Pennsylvania Colonization Society.—Mr. Arthur M. Burton, Mr. John Welsh Dulles, and Mr. Gilbert Emley.

The following Directors were stated to be in attendance:

Executive Committee.—Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D., Mr. Reginald Fendall, Rev. Thomas G. Addison, D. D., Dr. William W. Godding, Rev. A. J. Huntington, D. D., and Mr. J. Ormond Wilson.

Life Directors.—The Right Rev. Henry C. Potter, D. D., of New York, and the Rev. George W. Samson, D. D., of New York.

Whereupon, on motion—

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Credentials be accepted, and the gentlemen named be received as members of the Board.

On motion—

Rev. G. W. Samson, D. D., and the Hon. Isaac T. Smith were received as a committee to represent the New York State Society and invited as visitors to take seats with the Board and participate in its discussions; and the Rev. Bishop H. M. Turner, D. D., of Atlanta, Georgia, being present, was also invited to sit with the Board and participate in its discussions.

The Chair appointed the standing committees, as follows :

Committee on Education and Foreign Relations.—Dr. Godding, Mr. Emley, and Mr. Forbes.

Committee on Accounts and Finance.—Mr. Hall, Rev. Dr. Addison, and Mr. Wilson.

Committee on Auxiliary Societies and Agencies.—Rev. Dr. Samson, Mr. Dulles, and Rev. Dr. Sunderland.

Committee on Emigration.—Mr. Burton, Rev. Dr. Grammer, and Rev. Dr. Huntington.

On motion—

Resolved, That a committee be appointed to nominate the Executive Committee, Secretary, and Treasurer for the ensuing year..

The Rev. Dr. Samson, Mr. Hall, and Mr. Burton were appointed the committee.

The Secretary presented and read the Seventy-ninth Annual Report of the American Colonization Society.

The report of the Treasurer, showing his receipts and disbursements for the past year, with the certificate of audit; also a statement of the property of the Society, were presented.

Whereupon, on motion, it was—

Resolved, That the Annual Report and the Treasurer's Report just read, with accompanying papers, be accepted, and that so much of them as relates to foreign relations, finance, auxiliary societies, agencies, accounts, emigration, and education be referred to the several standing committees in charge of those subjects respectively.

On motion—

The Board took a recess to give the members an opportunity to attend the Annual Meeting of the American Colonization Society.

The Board reconvened at 3 o'clock p. m.

The Rev. Dr. Samson, chairman of the Committee to Nominate an Executive Committee, Secretary, and Treasurer, made the following report, which was adopted unanimously :

The Executive Committee.—Rev. Byron Sunderland, D. D., Mr. Reginald Fendall, Rev. Thomas G. Addison, D. D., Dr. William W. Godding, Judge Charles C. Nott, Rev. A. J. Huntington, D. D., and Mr. J. Ormond Wilson.

Secretary.—Mr. J. Ormond Wilson.

Treasurer.—Mr. Reginald Fendall.

On motion—

Resolved, That the President be authorized to organize a commission of citizens of New York to coöperate with the Society and to set forward its interests in that city and State.

Resolved, That for this and kindred purposes the appointment of Mr. Henry T. Buell as general agent be continued for another year.

Mr. Hall, chairman of the Standing Committee on Accounts and Finance, presented and read the following report, and it was, on motion, approved :

The Standing Committee on Accounts and Finance respectfully report that they have examined the Treasurer's accounts for the period from January 1 to December 31, 1895, and the vouchers for the disbursements, and find the same correct ; and that they have examined the evidences of property belonging to the Society for its own use and in trust, and find that they agree with the statement of the Treasurer.

The Rev. Dr. Samson, chairman of the Committee on Auxiliary Societies and Agencies, made the following report, which was adopted :

Your Committee on Auxiliary Societies beg leave to report that in view of the proposition to secure a national charter, that until the advisability of such action be determined, and, if advisable, be actually carried out, no special action disturbing the present relation of this Society and its auxiliaries is desirable.

Your Committee recommend that should a national charter be deemed advisable that the charter be so drawn as to secure the fullest coöperation of the present and of any future Auxiliary Societies.

Dr. Godding, chairman of the Committee on Education and Foreign Relations, made the following report, which was adopted:

The foreign relations of Liberia, so far at least as they are known here, have been subject to no fresh disturbance during the past year. The claims of the French having been settled by the surrender to the stronger nation of the territory on the southern boundary up to the Cavalla river, there is peace. There is also peace at last with the native tribes.

The commerce, such as it is, is mostly in the hands of the

English and Germans, and America has as yet no part in her carrying trade.

The coast line of Liberia is clearly defined, but her interior boundaries have hitherto been shadowy and liable to constant encroachments by the native savage tribes and the grasping European powers. Much of the hope of the future of Liberia lies in the development of her interior. To this end posts and settlements should be established and intelligent supervision exercised over the immigrants. The settlement at Mount Coffee under the auspices of Professor Cook, of the New York Colonization Society, is at present a most promising field in this direction for the colonists, and our Society assures him of its hearty coöperation therein.

In the matter of education it is important to commence at the foundation. Primary schools, with uniform text-books and capable teachers, appear to be the great want of Liberia. The Republic is fortunate in having in President Cheeseman a man apparently alive to her needs in this respect, and, thanks to the American Colonization Society, uniform text-books are now furnished to all pupils who apply, at a much lower cost to them than they could be obtained in any other way. In Liberia as in America the strength of the Republic is in her common schools.

In the education of the future in Liberia we look to see industrial training and intelligent agricultural methods. This is of vital importance to Liberia, and in this direction much may be hoped from the new departure at Mount Coffee under the watchful supervision of Professor Cook.

Whoever looks upon the latest map of Africa, as shown in Bulletin No. 5, will see how small a portion Liberia is of that great southern continent. The ratio is not unlike that of England to Europe; yet it is not in territory, but in the intelligence and enterprise of its people, that England has made her greatness manifest. In this direction lies Liberia's opportunity in the future of Africa.

Mr. Burton, chairman of the Committee on Emigration, made the following report:

Soon after our last annual meeting a large expedition of colored persons, numbering over 200 emigrants, was organized under the auspices of the "International Migration Society" of Birmingham, Alabama, to go to Liberia. The steamship *Horaa* was chartered, but proved to be entirely

too small to accommodate that number of passengers and supply them with the proper provisions after they landed. They arrived at Monrovia on Sunday, March 7, 1895. No one there had been informed of their coming until the steamer was seen coming into the port of Monrovia with the United States flag flying. The immigration agent of our Society immediately conferred with President Cheeseman and made arrangements for their being landed on Monday. Every available cargo boat was set to work. The government boarding master remained on shore at the American Colonization Society's warehouse to receive them. When night came every soul and all the luggage were on shore. Some of the passengers were lodged at the Society's warehouse, while the main body were accommodated in commodious plank and brick buildings—dwelling houses—and their baggage was properly stored. Each family was allotted by the government twenty-five acres of land, and to each single man 21 years of age or woman 18 years of age a certificate for ten acres was given. The immigrants made several journeys to different parts of the country and chose their lands, some in Johnsonville, some in Brewerville, and some in Royeville townships, nearly an equal number going to each of these settlements. The colonists were conveyed at the government expense. They were furnished with flour, bacon, crackers, rice, butter, and other articles of food to the value of \$600, which were distributed and sent with the colonists to their chosen settlements. A large amount was also donated by private individuals. During the rainy season they lived in the houses of the older settlers. Many of them have now built their own houses and are working their lands. Some have already planted potatoes and cassada, and a few have from two to four thousand coffee scions planted out. One of them has been elected road inspector and is township constable at Johnsonville, while another is giving satisfaction as a teacher at Arthington.

Your committee have referred to the history of this last expedition, which was perhaps the best equipped of any that has ever been organized under the auspices of any association other than this Society and its auxiliaries, as giving the most conclusive proof that the American Colonization Society sympathizes with the colored people who purpose to emigrate with their families to Liberia, and is glad to aid them to the fullest extent of its means and opportunities.

"The International Migration Society," as we are informed, purposes to send another colony of emigrants to Liberia in February, and are advertising the fact extensively among the colored people. The experience which has been gained from the last expedition will be used to provide better accommodations for the passengers during the voyage and a more adequate provision for their maintenance and support in Liberia until a permanent settlement can be effected.

As heretofore, the Society would encourage all honest efforts to aid emigration, and reassure those who purpose to make Liberia their perma-

ment home of our sincere desire and purpose to minister to their comfort and happiness and promote in every way their best interest as a people.

With grateful thanksgiving to Almighty God that he has continued the American Colonization Society until it finds prejudice yielding to the patient and faithful efforts made by the noble philanthropists in our Society who have passed from us to higher seats above, and finds a state organized to receive those who desire to return to the land of their fathers and establish there civil and religious liberty as fully as it is now existing in the United States, we feel that we can continue to appeal to the Congress of the United States and the Legislatures of the States to take measures by proper legal enactment to protect our colored people from being deluded and defrauded by illusive schemes of emigration devised by unprincipled people out of the little property which they have saved, and that we can now more earnestly urge upon Congress and the President the propriety of encouraging commercial trade with Liberia and better postal communication with the West Coast of Africa, so as to give our colored people better opportunities to visit the land of their fathers and make it their future permanent home, and as an ultimate end through their ministry to assist in civilizing and christianizing the whole of the Dark Continent.

On motion of Dr. Grammer, it was—

Resolved, That the Secretary of the American Colonization Society convey to the Liberian government the cordial thanks of this Society for their very generous assistance to the immigrants who arrived by the steamer *Horsa*, and to assure the Government that we hold in grateful appreciation the manifestation of their philanthropic interest in the objects of this Society by giving such friendly welcome to their shores to these volunteer emigrants to Liberia.

Resolved, That the report of the Committee on Emigration be accepted and referred to the Executive Committee, with the request that if it be deemed expedient that they memorialize Congress in the name of this Society, in view of the increasing emigration to Liberia, to establish direct postal communication and greater commercial facilities between our country and the Republic of Liberia.

On motion of Mr. Fendall, it was—

Resolved, That the question of applying to the Congress of the United States for a charter for this Society be, and the same is hereby, referred to the President and the Executive Committee, to report at a future meeting of the Society.

Mr. Smith, from the Committee on Education and Foreign Relations, appointed at the last annual meeting, made a verbal statement of his investigations relative to the recent cession of

Liberian territory to France; and, on motion, he was added to the committee appointed at the present meeting.

On motion of Dr. Grammer, the Society extended its greetings to all its auxiliaries and expressed its high appreciation of their continued interest in Liberia, made manifest by their work, contributions, and most welcome delegates zealously participating in the proceedings of the annual meetings of this Society.

On motion, the Rev. Dr. Samson, Bishop Turner, the Rev. Dr. Grammer, Mr. Smith, Mr. Fendall, and Mr. Wilson, with authority to associate with themselves the Hon. J. L. M. Curry, of Washington, D. C., were appointed a committee to have a conference with the Hon. John T. Morgan, United States Senator, in reference to such legislation by Congress as might be deemed desirable by the Society.

On motion—

Resolved, That the Annual Report of the Society be referred to the Executive Committee for publication.

The Rev. Dr. Grammer pronounced the benediction.

Adjourned.